

**MINUTES OF THE
HISTORIC DESIGN REVIEW COMMISSION MEETING
FEBRUARY 15, 2005**

The regular session of the Auburn City Historical Design Review Commission was called to order on February 15, 2005 at 6:30 p.m. by Chrm. Smith in the Council Chambers, 1225 Lincoln Way, Auburn, California.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Elder, McCord, Merz, Powers,
S. White, W. White, Chrm. Smith

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: Briggs

STAFF PRESENT: Reg Murray, Associate Planner;
Janet Ferro, Administrative Assistant

ITEM I: CALL TO ORDER

ITEM II: PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ITEM III: APPROVAL OF MINUTES

None.

ITEM IV: PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

ITEM V: PUBLIC HEARING ITEMS – HISTORIC DESIGN REVIEW

- A. Historic Design Review – 1650 Lincoln Way (Valero Gas Station) – File HDR 04-18.** The applicant requests Historic Design Review approval of sign and building re-imaging for the Valero gas station at 1650 Lincoln Way in the Old Town Historic District. *THIS ITEM WAS CONTINUED FROM THE JANUARY 18, 2005 HDRC MEETING.*

Reg Murray gave the staff report. He reviewed the project and advised that at the December 21, 2004 meeting the Commission expressed concern about the Valero Teal color on the service

canopy being too bold for the Old Town district. On January 4, 2005 the applicant appeared before the Commission with a revised request. The Commission continued the request a second time, noting that the applicant could do more for the site than just changing the color on the service canopy. The applicant has used the last several weeks to modify the design and has submitted revised plans. Color samples of the new colors were shown and Murray reviewed the conditions proposed.

Comm. McCord stated that she had a problem with condition #4, which requires that all existing un-permitted signs, including window signs, wall panel signs and banners, be removed prior to issuance of a building permit for the proposed sign and building improvements. She felt that the applicant needs signage to advertise the business and this condition was unfair.

Comm. Merz noted that this applicant has already gone to great lengths to please the Commission with two prior submittals and further changes requested.

Planner Murray pointed out that the signs being discussed are un-permitted signs that have existed in the applicant's business for some time and he is aware that they are illegal and will have to be removed. He noted that the applicant also has the option of applying for permits for the signs in question.

Comm. McCord stated she would like to change Condition #4 to eliminate the last sentence, which requires removal of all window signs, wall panel signs and banners.

Comm. S. White noted that the applicant can obtain proper permits and have the signs up legally.

There was discussion of allowable signage and window signs in particular. Chrm. Smith stated that he would like the Commission, at a future date, to review the Sign Ordinance and address signs in general and how they are reviewed for compliance.

Comm. W. White stated that he would like to reverse the gray colors proposed, changing the main building to be painted medium gray and the trim painted light gray and he **MOVED** to add a condition:

Condition #5:

“The main building will be painted medium gray and the building trim will be painted light gray.”

Comm. Elder **SECONDED**.

The motion was approved 7-1 (Merz) by voice vote.

Comm. Merz added that he voted against this motion as he believes the colors are attractive as proposed and he did not approve of asking the applicant to make additional changes.

There was discussion of the sign ordinance and how it can be better enforced as there are apparently several businesses in the area that are not in compliance.

Comm. Powers **MOVED** to:

- A. Find the project Categorical Exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act per Section 15301 – Existing Facilities; and
- B. Approve the request for the Valero gas station at 1650 Lincoln Way subject to the conditions listed and as modified by the Planning Commission.

Comm. S. White **SECONDED**.

The representative from the sign company arrived at this time. Comm. McCord stated that she wanted to hear from him.

The public hearing was opened.

Chris Polster, Sign Development, Inc., described the sign proposed and gave further details on the proposal. He stated that he would agree to the conditions noted in the staff report. He was advised of the condition imposed earlier by the Commission, to reverse the gray colors on the building and trim, and he advised that the applicant would comply with that condition also.

The public hearing was closed.

Comm. McCord **MOVED** to strike a portion of the last sentence from Condition #4:

“All miscellaneous signs not permitted by this permit or allowed by the City sign ordinance shall be removed prior to the issuance of a building permit for the proposed sign and building improvements. This includes all window signs, ~~wall panel signs,~~ and banners.”

There was no second and the motion was no longer before the Commission.

The vote and the main motion:

AYES:	Powers, S. White, Elder, W. White, Chrm. Smith
NOES:	McCord
ABSTAIN:	Merz
ABSENT:	Briggs

The motion was approved.

The Chairman announced the 10-day appeal period.

ITEM VI:

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
FOLLOW-UP REPORTS**

A. City Council Meetings.

Planner Murray reported on recent City Council meetings.

B. Future Historic Design Review Commission Meetings

Planner Murray discussed future meetings.

C. Reports

None.

ITEM VII:

HISTORIC DESIGN REVIEW COMMISSION REPORTS

None.

**ITEM VIII: FUTURE HISTORIC DESIGN REVIEW COMMISSION
AGENDA ITEMS**

Comm. S. White stated that in reviewing the historic design documents there didn't appear to be anything that addressed approved colors for the area. She would like to have a Commission discussion on establishing approved colors that would be in keeping with the Old Town Auburn area.

Chrm. Smith added that he would also like a more definitive explanation of sign criteria to be better informed when sign requests come before the Commissioners.

ITEM IX: ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Elaine Ferro, Administrative Assistant